

Fabio is committed to ensuring that the needs of our diverse community are met, the voice of South Florida is heard throughout the various levels of government and that Hispanics have opportunity for growth and success. He has set forth to empower individuals, strengthen families, create networks, and bring within reach opportunities for others.

For more than 20 years, Fabio has been instrumental in the creation of work training centers across South Florida, providing support for small businesses and assisting new business owners. As a founder and the CEO of The Americas Community Center, a non-profit organization, he has created a network of support and guidance for immigrants and minorities as they enter the workforce. Fabio himself was able to achieve his success through hard work and dedication, and it is those values which he strives to instill in others.

Fabio's work and his love of service embody the true spirit of prosperity and freedom. He is committed to defending our nation's principles, while at the same time working to ensure that his native Colombia remains the strongest democracy in Latin America.

I ask that you join me in honoring and thanking my good friend Fabio Andrade, a true leader who loves and values freedom and works so that others may enjoy it.

IOWA SAFE SCHOOLS LAW THREE YEAR ANNIVERSARY

HON. BRUCE L. BRALEY

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the three year anniversary of the Iowa Safe Schools law. As an Iowan, I'm proud to say that my home state has a strong Safe Schools law which protects all students against prejudice. Iowa is the 10th state to pass such a law which was the extension of the Civil Rights law which protects LGBT school staff members from discrimination.

I also rise today to recognize my friend, former State Senator Mike Connelly. Senator Connelly has been a trusted advocate for policies related to education and youth in Iowa during his 30 years working as a legislator. Senator Connelly played an integral role in the passing of the Safe Schools law serving as the floor manager in the Iowa Senate for the passing of the bill. It was Senator Connelly who successfully challenged those who were initially opposed to the Safe Schools Law. His support helped persuade many Senators to switch their final vote from "no" to "yes."

I'm pleased to be celebrating the three year anniversary of the Iowa Safe Schools law. This law will protect students against discrimination for generations to come.

HONORING THE MILITARY SERVICE OF SERGEANT GLENN LATRONICO

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. LIPINSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Sergeant Glenn Latronico of Oak

Lawn, Illinois, who is returning home after a fifth tour of duty in the Middle East as an Army Ranger.

U.S. military forces currently rely on the sacrifice and dedication of volunteer soldiers. The freedom every one of us enjoys today depends on the choice made by hundreds of thousands of men and women to risk their own lives for the sake of others through military service.

But even among our dedicated soldiers, the service of certain individuals can rise far above and beyond the call of duty. Sergeant Latronico began his service six years ago with basic training at the age of 18, and proceeded to undergo additional rigorous requirements to become an Army Ranger. After basic training, Army Rangers must take part in Advanced Individual Training and obtain a Military Occupational Specialty; complete Airborne Training; and attend the Ranger Assessment and Selection Program. Not every soldier chooses or is able to fulfill these additional requirements. Sergeant Latronico's completion of this training alone places him among the elite in our military forces.

With his training completed, Sergeant Latronico took part in five tours of duty—two in Iraq and three in Afghanistan. His steadfast service in the face of difficult conditions on the ground in these two countries exemplifies dedication, discipline, and unwavering resolve. I am proud to welcome such a committed soldier back home to my district. I ask you to join me in honoring his sacrifice, a reminder of the very best that our young servicemen and women can offer our great country.

HONORING FLYING TIGERS

HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. KINGSTON. Madam Speaker, celebrating the 69th anniversary of the first combat action of the American Volunteer Group, AVG, and to recognize the contribution of the AVG and the 23rd Fighter Group "Flying Tigers" to America's victory in World War II.

Whereas the American Volunteer Group was formed by Lieutenant General Claire Chennault for the defense of China;

Whereas the American Volunteer Group was affectionately known as the Flying Tigers;

Whereas the American Volunteer Group Flying Tigers saw their first combat over Yunnan Province in China on December 20th, 1941 shooting down nine enemy bombers;

Whereas the American Volunteer Group Flying Tigers faced a numerically superior enemy force, long logistics supply lines and poor infrastructure and despite those challenges ultimately destroyed 299 enemy aircraft and 153 probably destroyed, losing only 12 aircraft in combat;

Whereas the American Volunteer Group Flying Tigers were disbanded and the 23rd Fighter Group Flying Tigers were activated in their stead on July 4th, 1942;

Whereas the 23rd Fighter Group while facing similar challenges in the Chinese theater, nonetheless destroyed 621 enemy aircraft finishing as the third highest scoring Army Air Force's Fighter Group of World War II;

Whereas the current day 23rd Fighter Group and 23rd Wing continues the proud combat

tradition of the American Volunteer Group seeing combat action in Vietnam, Desert Storm, Operation Allied Force, Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom;

Resolved, that the United States Congress congratulates the Flying Tigers of the American Volunteer Group and the 23rd Fighter Group for their contribution to our nation's defense and celebrates the 69th anniversary of the first combat action by the Flying Tigers.

HONORING ARMY STAFF SERGEANT ERIC BYRON SHAW

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. MICHAUD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of Army Staff Sergeant Eric Byron Shaw of Exeter, ME who was killed while serving his country in Afghanistan.

Eric was well-loved by his community, family, and friends. He is remembered for his dedication to serving his nation, his generous spirit, and his devotion to his family. On June 23rd, Sergeant Shaw was killed in action on his third tour of duty in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. This loss is particularly painful as Shaw leaves behind a young family.

Known for his good nature, Shaw was a 1999 graduate of Dexter High School. After high school, he enrolled in the University of Southern Maine where he was a member of the Sigma Nu fraternity. As a history major with a minor in education, Shaw planned to pursue a career teaching history. His close friends remember him as a caring person willing to do volunteer work and participate in community activities.

Staff Sergeant Shaw was on his third tour of duty with the 327th Infantry, First Brigade Combat Team from Fort Campbell, Kentucky. During his service, he received many awards including the Army Commendation Medal with one Oak Leaf Cluster, the Iraq Campaign Medal, and the National Defense Service Ribbon. Sergeant Shaw will be receiving three awards posthumously, the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart and the NATO Medal.

In Maine, our communities are known for coming together during a crisis, and I know that everyone in the state stands together to support Eric's mother, wife and three children, although they do not live in the state. Eric is mourned by all as a true American hero and a defender of the freedom we all hold dear.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring the memory of Staff Sergeant Eric Byron Shaw for his patriotism and devotion to his community and his country.

RECOGNIZING THE WORK AND SERVICE OF ANA SOTORRIO

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ana Sotorrio for her years of service to the residents of Miami-Dade County, as she retires this month.